IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) A wave power assembly comprising;

a hull;

a linear electric generator having a rotor and a stator, said rotor being connected to said hull so that lifting force is transferred from said hull to said rotor, said stator being adapted to be anchored to a sea/lake bottom; and

spring means configured to exert a force on said rotor, which force, during at least a part of the motion of said rotor, counter-directs the lifting force exerted on said rotor by said hull as a consequence of the motion of said hull and the force exerted by said spring means, said rotor being configured to execute a reciprocating motion between two end positions defining the length of stroke of said rotor, said rotor having a predetermined fixed maximum length of stroke;

said spring means being configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to about 50% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 2.5 as a maximum.

20. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim. 19, wherein the size of said force varies by a factor of 1.25 as a maximum.

21. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 20, wherein the size of said force is substantially constant.

22. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

23. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 20, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the

maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

24. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 21, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

25. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 22, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

26. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 23, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

27. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 24, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

28. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises a gas spring.

29. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises a mechanical spring.

30. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein

said spring means has a non-linear spring characteristic.

31. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises an actively controlled spring.

32. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring comprises a plurality of springs.

33. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

34. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 22, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

35. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 25, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

36. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said short distance constitutes less than 10% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

37. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said means is configured so that the force next to said end position increases with decreasing distance to the end position.

38. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 36, wherein said means is configured so that the force next to said end position increases with decreasing distance to the end position.

39. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

40. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 36, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

41. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 37, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

42. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 39, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

43. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 40, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

44. (Previously presented) The wave power assembly according to claim 41, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

45. (Previously presented) A wave power plant comprising a plurality of wave power assemblies according to claim 19.

46. (Previously presented) Use of a wave power assembly according to claim 19 in order to generate electric energy.

47. (Previously presented) A method to generate electric energy by means of at least one wave power assembly according to claim 19.